

**RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF NURSE REGISTRATION AND NURSING  
EDUCATION**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**12 December 2005**

**Open Session**

**The Open Session of the Rhode Island Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education was called to order at 8:12 am on the above date in the Beck Conference Room, Department of Health, Three Capitol Hill, Providence, Rhode Island, pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Open Meetings Law, so called, and other applicable sections of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, as amended.**

**BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Ronita Appiah, RN**

**Deborah Brown RN, MSN**

**Kathleen Breguet, RN, MSN**

**William Dodd, CRNA**

**Cristiana Rosa, PCNS, Vice President**

**Genevieve Rodrigues, LPN**

**Sharon Smith, RN, MSN, President**

**Eve Sweeney, RN, MSN**

**BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Susan Day, RN, MS**

**Samuel Havens**

**Theresa Jeremiah, RN**

**Mary Dowd Struck, RN, CNM**

**STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Jean Marie Rocha, MPH, RN, Director, Nurse Registration & Nursing Education**

**Charles Alexandre, MS, RN, Chief, Health Professions Regulations**

**Elizabeth James, RN, Complaint Unit**

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Ruth Ricciarelli**

**Jane Williams**

**Paulette Osterman**

**Doris Aline Fournier**

**Donna Policastro**

**Jane McCool**

**Sandra Solem**

**Catherine Rose**

**Hugh Hall**

**Ed Quinlan**

**Elizabeth Shelov**

**Maureen McGarry**

**Dayle Joseph**

**Dan Egan**

## **ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

**Ms. Smith called the meeting to order at 8:12 am. A quorum was established at 8:30 am.**

## **PRESENTATION OF MINUTES OF OPEN SESSION OF November 14, 2005**

**On motion of Ms. Breguet, seconded by Ms. Rosa, it was unanimously voted to accept the minutes.**

## **VOTE TO SEAL MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE SESSION OF November 14, 2005 PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 42-46-4 AND 42-46-5 OF THE RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS**

**On motion of Ms. Appiah seconded by Ms. Brown, it was unanimously voted to keep confidential all matters discussed in the Executive Session of November 14, 2005 and to seal those minutes inasmuch as fitness for licensure and ongoing disciplinary matters were addressed.**

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**• None**

# **DIRECTOR, NURSE REGISTRATION AND NURSING EDUCATION REPORT**

**· None**

## **BUSINESS**

**Ms. Smith notes today's dialogue is to review the Nurse Practice Act (NPA) with a focus on nurse faculty criteria to look for opportunities to increase capacity in our nursing programs. Ms. Rocha notes the BON licensing statistics for RN by Examination has remained stagnant since 1996. The BON licenses approximately 300 new grads per year. The attendees expressed concern that a change in the NPA may lower the current standards for Nurse Educator's. The NPA mandates MSN as criteria to teach nursing. Also, the attendees note the lower wages that Nurse Educator's receive in comparison to non-nurse educators and those outside of academia contributes to the lack of retention and recruitment of qualified nurse faculty. The attendees note accomplishments within their individual nursing programs, however express a need to have a coordinated state wide initiative accountable to the Nursing Programs for increasing capacity at the programs. A few recommended suggestions that drew support to increase nursing capacity are: comparable wages for Nurse Faculty, support for the RIC MSN graduate program, increase clinical site access in OB/Pedi, stipends for students to improve their academics while working their way thru school, partnering with MSN student to precept undergrads in clinical setting, continue to work with the Shape II and Colleagues in Caring groups to build upon their**

**initiatives to avoid duplication of efforts that are already in place. No recommendation was made to change the rules and the regulations of the Nurse Practice Act.**

## **ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**On motion of Ms. Sweeney, seconded by Ms. Appiah, it was unanimously voted to move into Executive Session pursuant to 42-46-4 and 42-46-5(1) of the Rhode Island General Laws for discussion of job performance, character, physical or mental health of applicants for licensure and licensees and for discussion of investigatory proceedings relating to misconduct by applicants for licensure and licensees, and investigatory proceedings regarding allegations of civil or criminal misconduct. The Open Session adjourned at 9:30am.**

## **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

**Ms. Smith called the Open Session back to Order at 12:40 pm**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**· None**

## **PRESENTATION OF FINAL ACTIONS**

**The Board unanimously voted the following actions in Executive Session at today's meeting:**

**Francis Goulet, LPN Reprimand**

**Ann Gretchen Hitchcock, RNP NUC**

**Kristi Lyngaas, RN Grant License with probation**

**Paul Pinkrah, LPN Probation**

**Jennifer Keegan, RN Grant License**

**James Johnston, RN Grant License**

**Toni Lynn Avery, RN Grant License**

**Nicole Jean-Gillis, RN NUC**

**Gail Bell, RN NUC with Letter of Concern**

**Karen Steve, RN Release from Probation**

**Roberta Feather, RN NUC with Letter of Concern**

**Delourdes Abelard, LPN NUC with Letter of Concern**

## **VOTE TO SEAL MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 42-46-4 AND 42-46-5 OF THE RHODE ISLAND GENERAL LAWS**

**On motion of Ms. Rodrigues, seconded by Ms. Breguet, it was  
unanimously voted to keep confidential all matters discussed in the  
Executive Session and to seal those minutes inasmuch as fitness for  
licensure and ongoing disciplinary matters were addressed.**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**On motion of Ms. Breguet, seconded by Ms. Smith, it was  
unanimously voted to adjourn at 1:10 pm.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**William Dodd, CRNA, Secretary**